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## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Currently Amended) A plastics closure (10) for a container, the closure (10) comprising a top plate (15), a side skirt (20) depending from the periphery of the top plate (15), a sealing strip (45) depending from the top plate and adapted to sealingly engage the side of a container neck finish (75), and an abutment member (55) including a projecting guide member (65) for guiding the sealing strip (45) towards the neck finish (75) as the closure (10) is applied, so that the strength of the seal is increased, wherein the guide member contacts the sealing strip over a relatively small area so that the friction between the sealing strip and the abutment member is minimized and wherein the sealing strip is inclined radially towards the neck finish for improving the sealing effect as to increase the strength of the seal and to minimize friction between the strip (45) and the abutment member (55), characterized in that, the sealing strip (45) is inclined radially towards the neck finish (75) and thus improve the sealing effect.
- 2. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein the sealing strip (45) ttapers slightly away from the top plate (15).
- 3. (Currently Amended) A closure according to either of claims\_1 or 2, wherein the surface (47)\_of the free end of the sealing strip-(45) tapers sharply.
- 4. (Currently Amended) A closure (110) according to any preceding claim 1, wherein the sealing strip (145) is adapted to seal on the outer surface (180) of the neck finish.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A closure (110) according to claim 4, wherein the closure (110) further comprises a plug seal (190) adapted to seal on the inner surface (186) of the neck finish.

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6. (Currently Amended) A closure (110) according to claim 5, wherein the plug seal (190) is adapted to exert an outward force on the neck finish (175) for causing the neck finish to move outwards, thereby increasing the strength of the seal from the sealing strip-(145).

- 7. (Currently Amended) A closure (110) according to any of eclaims 1-to 3, wherein the sealing strip (45) is adapted to seal on the inner surface of the neck finish.
- <u>8.</u> (Currently Amended) <u>A container with a neck finish (75)</u> in combination with a closure (10) according to <u>any preceding claim 1</u>.
- 9. (New) A container with a neck finish in combination with a closure according to claim 2.
- 10. (New) A container with a neck finish in combination with a closure according to claim 3.
- 11. (New) A container with a neck finish in combination with a closure according to claim 4.
- 12. (New) A container with a neck finish in combination with a closure according to claim 5.
- 13. (New) A container with a neck finish in combination with a closure according to claim 6.
- 14. (New) A container with a neck finish in combination with a closure according to claim 7.